

AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Cancel)
2. (Currently Amended) A method of providing communications services, comprising:
 - submitting a bid to an auction moderator via an online auction to provide a data ~~communication~~ service;
 - providing the data ~~communication~~ service;
 - receiving, at the auction moderator, a service provider rating from a recipient of the data ~~communication~~ service indicating whether the data ~~communication~~ service was satisfactorily provided by the service provider; and
 - providing a recipient rating to the auction moderator in which the ~~the~~ [[a]] service provider of the data ~~communication~~ service indicates whether the recipient ~~of the segmentation service~~ satisfactorily paid for the data service ~~communication service~~.
3. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 2, wherein receiving the service provider rating comprises receiving feedback ~~regarding the recipient of the communication service, the feedback~~ indicating whether the recipient was satisfied with the data ~~communication~~ service.
4. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 2, wherein receiving the service provider rating comprises receiving the service provider rating from a client communications device ~~associated with the recipient of the communication service~~.
5. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 2, wherein providing the recipient rating comprises indicating charges were accepted by a credit card associated with the recipient~~[['s]] credit card accepted charges for the communication service~~.

6. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 2, further comprising causing display of the service provider rating during a future online auction of ~~communications services~~ to indicate that future data ~~communication~~ services will be satisfactorily provided.
7. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 2, wherein providing the communication service comprises:

determining a subcontracted processing service is required;
subcontracting at least a portion of the data service to a different service provider
to receive the subcontracted processing service; and
receiving a result of the subcontracted processing service

~~receiving a first data stream comprising packets of data packetized according to a packet protocol;~~

~~segmenting the first data stream into segments;~~

~~dispersing the segments via a communications network for subsequent processing services;~~

~~receiving results of the subsequent processing services;~~

~~determining a subcontracted processing service is required from a different service provider;~~

~~grouping together individual packets of data as a new segment that requires the subcontracted processing service;~~

~~subcontracting the new segment to the different service provider to receive the subcontracted processing service;~~

~~receiving a subcontracted result of the subcontracted processing service;~~

~~aggregating the results of the subsequent processing services and the subcontracted result of the subcontracted processing service into a second data stream; and~~

~~communicating the second data stream via the communications network.~~

8. (Currently Amended) A method of providing communications services, comprising:

auctioning a block of time of data ~~communication~~ service ~~that may be shared between multiple client communications devices;~~

receiving a bid at an auction moderator that conducts an auction for the block of time of data service;

accepting ~~selecting~~ the bid to provide the block of time of data service; and

receiving at the auction moderator a service provider rating from a recipient of the block of time of data ~~communications~~ service[,]] that indicates ~~the service provider rating indicating~~ whether the recipient was satisfied ~~with the communications service~~; and

receiving a recipient rating at the auction moderator in which a service provider of the block of time of data ~~communications~~ service indicates whether the recipient of the data communications service satisfactorily paid ~~for the block of time~~.

9. (Cancel)

10. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 8, wherein the block of time of data service comprises at least one of i) a maximum data transfer rate and ii) a minimum data transfer rate.

11. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 8, further comprising sharing the block of time of data service between multiple recipients ~~of the communications service~~.

12. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 8, further comprising sharing the block of time of data service between multiple Internet Protocol ~~telephone~~ numbers.

13. (Cancel)

14. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 8, further comprising sharing the block of time of data service between [[the]] multiple client communications devices associated with multiple users.
15. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 8, further comprising negotiating with a group of recipients for the block of time of data ~~communications service, the group comprising recipients willing to pay for the communications service and recipients unwilling to pay for the communications n service, wherein the recipients willing to pay for the communications service are permitted to sponsor the recipients unwilling to pay for the communications service.~~
16. (Cancel)
17. (Cancel)
18. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 8, further comprising presenting the service provider rating during a future online auction[[.]] ~~wherein the service provider rating is used to inspire trust in other recipients that their future~~ data ~~communications~~ service will be satisfactorily provided.
19. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 8, ~~wherein providing the communications service comprises~~ further comprising:
- determining a subcontracted processing service is required;
subcontracting at least a portion of the data service to a different service provider to receive the subcontracted processing service; and
receiving a result of the subcontracted processing service
- ~~receiving a first data stream comprising packets of data packetized according to a packet protocol;~~
segmenting the first data stream into segments;

~~dispersing the segments via a communications network for subsequent processing services;~~
~~receiving results of the subsequent processing services;~~
~~determining a subcontracted processing service is required from a different service provider;~~
~~grouping together individual packets of data as a new segment that requires the subcontracted processing service;~~
~~subcontracting the new segment to the different service provider to receive the subcontracted processing service;~~
~~receiving a subcontracted result of the subcontracted processing service;~~
~~aggregating the results of the subsequent processing services and the subcontracted result of the subcontracted processing service into a second data stream; and~~
~~communicating the second data stream via the communications network.~~

20. (Currently Amended) A ~~computer program product comprising a~~ computer readable medium storing processor executable instructions for performing a method, the method comprising:

~~conducting an auction of a block of time of usage for data of a communications services that may be shared between multiple client communications devices;~~
~~receiving a bid at an auction moderator for the block of time;~~
~~accepting the bid;~~
~~receiving a recipient rating at the auction moderator in which a service provider of the data communications services indicates whether a recipient of the data communications services satisfactorily paid for the block of time; and~~
~~receiving at the auction moderator a service provider rating from the recipient of the communications service, the service provider rating indicating whether the recipient was satisfied with the data communications services.~~